Message Text

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2.1

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /098 W

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R 291530Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2613 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY PARIS USMISSION USUN

CONFIDENTIAL PRETORIA 3312

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, UN, SA

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA AND THE UN

REF: STATE 204583

- 1. IN MEETING WITH DFA UNDERSECRETARY VAN DALSEN ON AFTERNOON OF AUG 29 I RAISED QUESTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL. HE SAID SAG HAS REACHED NO DECISION AS YET REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN THE UNGA. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION WHETHER A DECISION MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING SOON, HE SAID THAT SAG PREFERRED TO WAIT A WHILE TO SEE HOW EVENTS UNFOLD. I ASKED WHAT THESE EVENTS MIGHT BE, MENTIONING LIMA CONFERENCE AS PERHPAS ONE OF THEM. VAN DALSEN REPLIED THAT LIMA CONFERENCE WOULD FOCUS ON ISREAL AND NOT SOUTH AFRICA. BUT THEN HE WENT ON TO ASK RHETORICALLY, "WELL, IF ACTION IS TAKEN TO SUSPEND ISREAL, WE DO NOT STAND CHANCE DO WE?."
- 2. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOT PICKED UP ANY EVIDENCE HERE OF STRUGGLE BETWEEN "HARD" AND "SOFT" LINERS ON THIS ISSUE. WE ARE INCLINED TO THINK THAT SAG IS AWAITING OUTCOME OF ARAB EFFORTS TO CLOSE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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DOOR ON ISREAL BEFORE DECIDING HOW TO PROCEED. VAN

DALSEN SAID THEY ARE NOT CONDUCTING CONSULTATIONS
BECAUSE "THIS WOULD CONVEY GREATER EAGERNESS THAN WE
WANT TO SHOW" BUT THEY ARE, OF COURSE, INTERESTED IN
VIEWS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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